

Stale Accounts in AD and eDIR

Agencies responding to survey – FWP, COR, DPHHS, DOC, MDT, DEQ, SOS, DLI, LEG, DOR, & DOA (OPD & MPERA).

Question #1 - “Is having an automatic purging mechanism appropriate?”

Yes – 4

No – 3

No answer – 4

Other – One agency was No for users and Yes for workstations

Comments:

- Two agencies have mechanisms in place to archive and/or delete old accounts.
- Three agencies expressed objections to an automatic mechanism – would prefer to handle the process internally.
- Six agencies expressed comments that if an automatic purge process is enabled then agencies should have a method to flag accounts to be excluded from the process. The flagging method would need to address various scenarios like leave for military duty, seasonal work, temporary worker accounts, and account IDs tied to position.

Question #2 – “What is the appropriate number of days before an account is moved to the stale account area?”

90 Days – 2.5

120 Days – 1

180 Days – 4.5

420 Days – 1

No answer - 3

One agency for users at 90 and workstations at 180

Question #3 – “What is the appropriate number of days before an account in the stale account area is deleted?”

30 Days – 1

60 Days – 3

90 Days – 1

180 Days – 2

360 Days – 1

24 Months – 1

No answer – 3

Question #4 – “What types of notification in this process would agencies want?”

Email notification – 7

NMG notification – 1

No answer - 4

Comments:

- General comments were to have an email notification when stale account was moved and before deletion. Other comments included notification before the stale accounts were moved.
- One agency expressed interest in having the notification email include the last access time stamp.

General Comments:

- We <agency> would also suggest a separate classification for user accounts that are military personnel that are deployed (they do not login to the system, but check email via the web). This classification would stop the 'move to stale account area' process.
- We <agency> would also suggest a separate classification for user accounts to indicate a 'VACANT' status. Sometimes there are positions that go for a long time before they are filled. This classification would stop the 'move to stale account area' process
- <Agency> also has an archive process that is done before the deletion of any user account. The archive process requires that the user account still be in AD so if an account is automatically deleted before it can be archived our process will not work properly and information normally archived would not be.
- For user accounts never automatically purge, just disable. Leave it up to the agency to delete the account. We only deleted after they are on the payroll reports indicating the user has been officially terminated

Proposal:

ITSD implements an automatic purging mechanism for stale accounts in AD & eDir. This mechanism would allow agencies to exclude accounts. The mechanism would notify agency staff before accounts were moved to holding area and before deletion. The criteria used will be 180 days of no activity to be moved to holding area and 90 days in holding area before deletion.